

Prairieland Talk

What Have You Seen Today?

By ROMAINE SAUNDERS, Retired, Former Editor The Frontier

LINCOLN — This first morning of the last seven of the month of March the sun rose straight east, spread a path of light across the blue heavens to disappear at the eventing tide straight to the west.

Before the day was done the little instrument out on the porch recorded 86 degrees. Summer comes early to warm us for a moment and then the north wind's sullen moan comes down the highway of open air, lingers a moment and subsides. Out across prairieland birds fly with flapping wings, jack rabbit and coyote, polecat and badger are on the hunt. Mother cows call to the newborn calves, rancher and clodhopper plan the season's activities and city dwellers want rain to wet the two-by-four lawn. Men of the soil are wondering which field should be planted to what. Cowboys are optimistic judging from what went on down at Columbus at an Angus sale.



Romaine Saunders

A gent from the range down in Deuel county laid down \$2,000 for a bull to run with his herds.

Pink glow of dawn on prairieland, sunrise, the blaze of noonday, the gold of sunset and evening shadows. What have you seen today—a weed by the highway or the prairie roses, a dead stump or a living tree fragrant with apple blossoms? Did you see only a patch of sand or did you behold the endless miles of landscape robed in velvet green?

Did you hear sighs and groanings of mankind or the song of larks, and catch a glimpse of the flash of gold of a canary's plumage? Spring and summer on prairieland!

Into 12 feet of water in the Monongahela river in distant Pennsylvania, an air plane plunged. The pilot was Lt. Harold D. Tegeler, a Page youth serving in the navy. Tragedy has reached an inexorable hand to pluck another victim from our midst and leave behind a desolated home.

The four Green brothers—Guy, Will, Luke and John—Bill Robinson and Jim Dixon, once at large on the open prairie just across the line in Wheeler county . . . where are they? Dead, no more to be seen among the living, somewhere lying under the sod, having joined that immemorial caravan for the ultimate of human destiny from whose bourne no traveler returns. The grass-grown region where they had set up their tepees in the days of the "Kinkaid homesteaders" is now without a building, only branded beeches seen where once human footprints trailed across the sands. Men die, the land they trod remains. And what of Gus and Hugo Hoppe, Pat Boyle, Tyler Scrivan and Emil Robar-check? Are they, too, not your neighbors out where the sun shines, the birds sing, the wildlings roam and men and women are free, now lying somewhere until the drumbeat of eternity calls the dead out of their graves? What then?

The Nebraska Federation of Women's clubs have a lovefest in Omaha today. Our state's governor with a U.S. senator from Tennessee, whose long eye has a focus on the white house, will address the ladies. It being a feminine affair, the list of speakers might well have included The Frontier Woman, one or more of the capable housewives who are battling to retain the Amelia high school, or a native Nebraskan, Prairieland Talker's daughter now in New Mexico, who appears before assemblies to put the world straight and with convincing logic and eloquent appeal has solved the problem of the highway crackpans.

Editorial

Cynic Can Get Earful

From The Nebraska (Geneva) Signal
A cynic could stand on a street corner in Geneva, or any other community, listen to all the rumors and gossip in circulation at any time in such a community and come up with the following conclusions:

All public officials are scheming crooks; boards handling public money are concealing the truth from taxpayers and secretly plotting to break the taxpayers; most of the dishonest people as well as hypocrites are to be found in our churches; teachers are cold-blooded plotters who are out to make life miserable for "our" children; teen-agers or "juvenile" are flagrantly immoral and have secret vice which public officials and teachers ignore or condone; local merchants are nearly insolvent and keep going only by dishonest business methods; the community is full of alcoholics, most of whom are "secret" drinkers, and similar conclusions.

We say the cynic could hear enough stories to convince him all of the above unpleasant things are true, provided he doesn't take the trouble to verify the stories or just use a little plain common sense in evaluating them. While there are many unpleasant and undesirable truths in some of the products turned out by local rumor factories, our experience has been that in most instances they are based upon misunderstandings, half-truths and, in many cases, malicious falsehoods.

Most fair-minded people who hear reports of "shocking" conditions are concerned enough to inquire in the right places to get the facts. Such inquiries should be encouraged and every effort made to set the record straight, but many stories are so ridiculous on their face they don't even deserve to be repeated, even though they are repeated and labeled as malicious gossip.

Postal Rates and Postal Costs

Historically the matter of American postal rates has been a strange mixture of financial nonsense, politics and reason.

As to the politics, the republican policy committee chairman, Senator Bridges, put the current situation succinctly and certainly frankly when he observed that an election year isn't "too conducive" to increasing postage rates.

As to reason, back of the politics and of the unrealistic dollars-and-cents picture lies an honest question—one which faced early congresses as well as this one: Has the government a responsibility to insure some medium of communication between its citizens and that some enlightenment always reaches its citizens? In other words, is a degree of government subsidy sometimes justified?

Fathers are urged to spend more time with their sons, and we think there's a five-minute spot between Disneyland and Scout meeting when a little man-to-man comradeship might be worked in.

A good way to turn off unwanted guests is to turn off the television set in winter or the TV and air conditioner in summer.

The Nebraska State Historical society will have a new director starting September 1. Dr. James C. Olson is resigning as society director to connect with the state university historical department as a professor. Doctor Olson has served the historical society as secretary and director the past 10 years, succeeding Addison E. Sheldon. During his administration the society acquired a splendid new building in Lincoln and greatly enlarged its scope both as a center of our state history and museum collections. Men's views differ as to what constitutes the history of a state. Some see little more than official matters and military affairs. Others say community life of its citizens is the true historical picture.

And his name is Sorenson. A Scandinavian descendant of hardy Norsemen who traveled the seven seas and discovered a land we call America. Sorenson—a brick layer, stone mason, pressman, printer. Jack of all trades and master of none? No. Master of each and always has a job.

Tuesday each week the State Historical society has something of interest on the TV screen. A recent feature was Marie Sandoz, the sandhills author. Miss Sandoz did not appear in person, but rather her literary achievements were brought to the public by a historical society representative. As a prairieland writer the gifted sandhills lady first attracted attention when her story of "Old Jules" was published. Jules was her father. His first Nebraska home was over at Niobrara. He later went up about Gordon but previously had looked us over in the O'Neill community with the view, as was supposed, of locating here. A number of the author's works deal with the plains Indians. And Indian stories give rein to literary license to venture upon the fictitious. That's where the interest lies. An inviting realm for literary flight would be the story of our American cowboy. Perhaps Miss Sandoz, or equally qualified Holt country's own Will H. Spindler, will produce such a work.

Two counties, one to the east of Holt, the other to the south with a county between—Pierce to the east and Greeley, south of Wheeler — call for drought disaster aid. Rolling over the hills of Greeley county a few times the past season I could see little change from other years, but in the town of Greeley it was evident from deserted streets and no activity that the community was partially paralyzed. Settlements in Greeley county trace their history back to the days of Gen. John O'Neill, who had also fathered a colony that became the county seat of Holt county. And it, too, passed through periods of drought and hot winds, and out of heroic struggles survived to become a prosperous city, the center and hub of the industry, commerce and culture of a large expanse of prairieland. Pierce and Greeley are going to survive the "55" disaster.

The car was parked in front of a food market. It had Alabama license plates with the slogan, Heart of Dixieland. Americans are on the go with O'Neill nabobs joining the procession, Birmingham decorated with floral wreaths in Hawaii and Editor Cal flying to Miami, Fla., to be commissioned an admiral in Nebraska's naval fleet maybe to be launched soon on Swan lake.

Jews, little by little, are winning back the homeland of their father, Abraham. Any other race of people—English, French, German, Italian, Spanish—if they had been through what the Hebrews have endured would have been wiped out as a race. The Jew, a Hebrew racially, has suffered much, persecuted and scattered to all lands.

Votes for Washington!

If there is anything more ridiculous in the structure of American government than the provision current laws make or fail to make for governing the city of Washington, it would be difficult to find it.

Nationwide civic organizations regularly urge citizens to get out and vote—yet at the very seat of the nation's government, where interest in public affairs is greatest, though a majority are privately employed, the residents of a municipality of 850,000 are disenfranchised.

Two scientists plan to visit the Auca Indians of Ecuador, and we can only hope they don't overdo their zeal to portray cannibal life from the inside.

One of the worst forms of inflation is the stuffed shirt who thinks he knows how to cure it.

We wonder if the government kept a list of the black market operators during the past war.

Stop worrying about what Junior will do when he grows up. Better go see what he's up to now.

The only time the modern youngsters don't know all the answers is during school hours.

When you shake your fist at someone, remember your fingers are pointing at yourself.

Every man cannot be the best, but every man can be his best.—Mirabeau.

The republican party's two greatest assets: Dwight Eisenhower and Harry Truman.

Middleage is when work is no longer and play is getting to be work.

Hint to politicians: Do noble things, and let who will be clever.

THE FRONTIER

CARROLL W. STEWART, Editor and Publisher

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When You and I Were Young . . .
Jed Landon Ships
Horses to Vermont
To Visit Old Home in
Pennsylvania

50 Years Ago
Jed Landon of Atkinson shipped a car of horses to Vermont. Charles Bauman went along to look after the horses and visit his old home in Pennsylvania before returning. German is being taught in the high school. . . Fannie Gallagher resumed teaching in Stuart after her school was closed because of scarlet fever. . . Ben McKathnie and wife of Phoenix celebrated their 36th wedding anniversary.

20 Years Ago
J. Millard ("Mel") Putnam died at the home of a daughter, Mrs. Ed Hood. . . Participating in a crowd meat feast here were Clem Cuddy John Fox, Richard Bowden, Fred Calkins, Jack Davidson, Phillip Dempsey, Loyd Godel, Les Uhl, Shobert Edwards and Julian Rummel. . . Mrs. Lloyd Britzell of Inman died at her home. . . Mr. and Mrs. Joe Fernholz and family moved recently to the Wettlaufer farm, north of O'Neill.

10 Years Ago
Romaine Saunders, having terminated his services at The Frontier on account of failing eyesight, left Monday for Lincoln to visit his daughter and family and to attend a meeting of the state library board of which he is a member. . . Mrs. Margaret Donohoe, wife of Patrick C. Donohoe, died at her home. . . Miss Marguerite Jean Clark of Inman and Roy E. Tjessem of Maywood, Ill., were married. . . Maj. J. F. ("Jack") Grady was discharged from the armed forces. He was offered a fine job with the department of labor and accepted.

One Year Ago
Mrs. Anna Taylor of Inman celebrated her 87th birthday anniversary at the R7th Siders home. . . Mrs. Carrie Blake, 93, of Chambers died. . . Fred C. Watson, 87, died. . . Gordon Dvorak, 5, of Atkinson has a pet pigeon that rides on the handlebars of his tricycle. . . Miss Joan Lee Coventry and Graydon E. Hartigan, both of Inman, were united in marriage.

Hear Report on
Safety Congress

INMAN—The Community club met Monday, March 26, at the assembly room of the high school for a regular session. . . Walter Fick was in charge of the meeting. . . Sam Watson gave a detailed report on the safety congress which he attended in Lincoln March 23-24. He was accompanied to Lincoln by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ira Watson. The program committee presented a panel of five who carried out the theme: "Can you top this?" . . . Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Tompkins and Mr. and Mrs. Ira Watson were coffee hosts.

Begins Training
Under Reserve Act—

ORCHARD — Pvt. James E. Hemenway, 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dallas Hemenway of Orchard, recently began six months of military training at Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo., under the new reserve forces act. . . Hemenway is receiving eight weeks of basic combat training, which will be followed by advanced individual and unit training. Men volunteering for the six-month tour of active duty are permitted to finish their military obligation in local army reserve or national guard units. . . Hemenway, a 1955 graduate of Orchard high school, entered the army last December.

Karen Obermire
Girls' State Choice—
STUART — Miss Karen Obermire, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Obermire, has been chosen by the American Legion auxiliary of Norfolk to represent Nebraska at the girls' state in June. Miss Obermire is treasurer of the junior class in Stuart high school and is active in Pep club, volleyball, band, dramatics and girls' chorus. . . Miss Helen Kaup, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kaup, jr., was chosen as an alternate.



Miss Obermire

Riverside News

Friday evening, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Shrader, Diane and Gordon, Mr. and Mrs. Willie Shrader and family, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Christian celebrated their March wedding anniversary by having a supper at the Dewitt Hoke home. . . The Happy Hollow 4-H club and their guests had an enjoyable evening roller skating at the Neligh rink Tuesday, March 27.

Bill Fry was an overnight guest at the Duane Jensen home Friday. Mrs. Fry, who was helping at the Jensen home, returned home with him Saturday afternoon. . . Mr. and Mrs. Earl Pierson were guests at the Walter Woopple home Sunday. Other guests were Mr. and Mrs. Earl McClanahan and family, Mr. and Mrs. Pat Burk and family and M. Arthur Fleming and daughters, who spent the weekend coming from Minnesota. . . Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Bennett and Roger, Ina Bennett, Mrs. Flora Young and Wilmer, James Bennett, Mrs. Emma Coover, Mr. and Mrs. Maynard Morrow and family were Sunday dinner guests at the May and Wayne Shrader home.

Mrs. Ivan Turner entertained her Sunday-school class at supper Friday evening. . . Mr. and Mrs. Carl Christian left for their home in Denver, Colo., Monday, after spending a week with relatives. They were Wednesday evening, March 28, supper guests at the Dave Pollock home. Mrs. Christian's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Larson, accompanied them home to spend a couple of weeks. . . Mr. and Mrs. Bill Lofquist and family were Easter day guests at the Charles Rotherham home. . . Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Pollock and Phil of Omaha visited over the weekend at the Dave Pollock home, also relatives at Neligh. Other guests Sunday at the Dave Pollock home were Mr. and Mrs. Art Busshardt and girls and Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Pollock and girls from Neligh. . . Mrs. Bell Mott of Page, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Mott and Mrs. Wayne Elliott and family of Orchard were Easter guests at the Grant Mott home. . . An Easter program was enjoyed by a good attendance at the Riverside church Sunday morning.

Sunday dinner guests at the Dale Napier home were Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Napier, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Fry, Mr. and Mrs. Lorraine Montgomery and family, Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Fry, Jackie and Sheila, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Napier and daughters, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Fry and children and Al Gibson. . . Mr. and Mrs. Willie Shrader and family and Kitty Fry were dinner guests Sunday at the Vic Vandernick home. . . Mr. and Mrs. Bert Fink spent Sunday at the Lee Fink home at Page.

The Leonard Koenig family moved to the Frank Schrad farm recently vacated by the Vic Vandernick family. . . Mrs. Darrol Switzer and family of Omaha came Wednesday, March 28, to visit relatives over Easter vacation. She visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph George, and her brother and family at O'Neill. Darrol joined them on Saturday where they were guests at the Wendell Switzer and Leo Miller home. Mr. and Mrs. Howard Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Miller and Jay Butler were also guests. . . Mr. and Mrs. Howard Miller were in O'Neill on business Friday.

Miss Vlanda Biddlecome, who is attending Norfolk Junior college, spent her Easter vacation at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Keith Biddlecome. . . Mr. and Mrs. Dewitt Hoke, Janell and Clayton, attended the sunrise Easter service given by Methodist church in Clearwater. . . Mr. and Mrs. Milford Wehenkel and Barbara of Neligh and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Montgomery ate dinner and supper at the George Montgomery home Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Tomjack were Sunday dinner guests at the Floyd Lee home in Ewing. . . Mr. and Mrs. Rol Hord and Duane were supper guests Thursday evening at the Alfred Napier home. Mr. and Mrs. and Mrs. George Montgomery were evening callers. . . Mr. and Mrs. Don Larson and family joined the Larson families Easter day at the home of Henry Reimers. Other guests were Mr. and Mrs. Donald Star and daughter of West Point, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Paul and daughter and Mrs. Lina Smith of Oakland. Mr. and Mrs. Carl Christian and Mr. and Mrs. Albert Larson. . . Mr. and Mrs. Allan Pollock entertained at dinner Sunday the James Pollock family and Mr. and Mrs. Joe Sturbaum.

Lionel Gunter accompanied Charles Rotherham, Mr. Spence, and Mr. Carter to a school board meeting at Bassett Tuesday evening, March 27. . . Radio Operator in Company—Army Pvt. Jeremiah J. Cuddy, 19, whose guardians, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Donohoe, live in O'Neill, recently was assigned to headquarters company of the First infantry division's 26th regiment at Ft. Riley, Kans. . . Cuddy is a radio operator in the company. He entered the army last September and completed basic training at Camp Chaffee, Ark. . . Cuddy is a 1955 graduate of St. Mary's high school.

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Mr. and Mrs. Richard Doiel and baby of Seward are expected this weekend to visit her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester Zakrzewski. . . Elkhorn Club Prepares for Family Night—EMMETT—The Elkhorn Valley 4-H club Monday met at the Elmer SchAAF home March 26. It was a postponed meeting from March 4 because of the measles. All members were present. Harlan and Earl Miller joined the Clover 4-H club this year. . . We received our new project books. We elected project leaders: Cooking and sewing—Mrs. Elmer SchAAF; adult recreational leader—George Skopec; wine—George Winkler; woodworking—Elmer SchAAF.

Our leader, Mrs. Herman Grothe, fixed half of the store window in Emmet for national 4-H week. The Holt Husky Huskers fixed the other half. Mrs. Leonard Dusatko, Mrs. Elmer SchAAF.

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O'Neill News

Easter guests of Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Harmon were Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Harmon and Mrs. J. R. Harmon, all of Scotsbluff, Mr. and Mrs. Don Godel and baby of Onawa, Ia., Miss Betty Mae Harmon of Omaha, Mr. and Mrs. V. C. Johnson and Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Harmon and family. . . Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Waring were Easter supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Pease at Center. . . Mr. and Mrs. Dwight C. Worcester and family visited the John Janousek and Ernest Novotny families in Gregory, S.D., for Easter. . . Easter dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. George Van Every were their son, Marvin Van Every, and family of Norfolk. They had been at Stuart to visit her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Andy Johnson, over Saturday night. . . Venetian blinds, prompt delivery, made to measure, metal or wood, all colors.—J. M. McDonalds. . . Easter guests at the Gene Wolfe, Ed Flood and Carsten Hansen homes were Mr. and Mrs. Joe Hansen and family of Norfolk. . . Mr. and Mrs. Weston Whitmer were in Tilden for Easter where they visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Larson. In the evening they stopped to visit Mr. Whitmer's brother, Keith Whitmer, and family. Little Steve Whitmer had visited his grandparents over Saturday night and returned home with his parents. . . Easter guests of Mr. and Mrs. Roland Weyhrich were Mr. and Mrs. Ed Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Jones and sons, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Homolka and children and Mr. and Mrs. Ray Grubb and boys, all of Chambers. . . Mrs. Katherine Gunn of Lincoln left Monday after visiting Mr. and Mrs. Andrew G. Wettlaufer last week. . . Don't be sorry. See our wallpaper display before you buy—Scoville's Western Auto, O'Neill, 45-2c. . . Mr. and Mrs. Richard Doiel and baby of Seward are expected this weekend to visit her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester Zakrzewski. . . Elkhorn Club Prepares for Family Night—EMMETT—The Elkhorn Valley 4-H club Monday met at the Elmer SchAAF home March 26. It was a postponed meeting from March 4 because of the measles. All members were present. Harlan and Earl Miller joined the Clover 4-H club this year. . . We received our new project books. We elected project leaders: Cooking and sewing—Mrs. Elmer SchAAF; adult recreational leader—George Skopec; wine—George Winkler; woodworking—Elmer SchAAF. . . Our leader, Mrs. Herman Grothe, fixed half of the store window in Emmet for national 4-H week. The Holt Husky Huskers fixed the other half. Mrs. Leonard Dusatko, Mrs. Elmer SchAAF.

Family Night—Harold Bell Wright's THE SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS John Wayne, Betty Field, Harry Carey with Beulah Bondi, James Barton, Samuel S. Hinds, Marjorie Main, Marc Lawrence. Beautiful as our woods and rolling hills . . . rugged as the hearts that live among them! Family admitted for 2 adult tickets; adults 50c; children 12c

Big Double Bill—Walt Disney's THE LITTLEST OUTLAW This is the boy who stole the general's horse . . . the bandit's thunder . . . the matador's cheers . . . and the hearts of everyone. — also — JOHNNY APPLESEED Adults 50c; children 12c; matinee Sat 2:30. All children unless in arms must have tickets

Benny Goodman Story—Benny Goodman, Donna Reed with Gene Krupa, Lionel Hampton, Ben Pollack, Teddy Wilson, Edward "Kid" Ory, and guest stars Harry James, Martha Tilton and Ziggy Elman and the incomparable music recorded by Benny Goodman. Color by technicolor. It's the story of music and its musical "greats" . . . of a fabulous guy . . . and the wonderful girl who was his inspiration! Adults 50c; children 12c; matinee Sun. 2:30. All children unless in arms must have tickets

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